

connecting said server to said terminal when the voice communications terminate;

(d) automatically fetching data of web sites including information which a user may require from said server; and

(e) storing the data fetched at step (d), wherein said upper layer applications perform a data communicating process from a status at a point immediately before starting the voice communications when the data communications are resumed,

wherein step (b) is executed in the server and the terminal, and

wherein said steps (d) and (e) are followed during the data communications between said terminal and said server, and said data stored in said step (e) is accessed during the voice communications so that said data stored in said step (e) is displayed during the voice communication, thereby establishing virtual data communications during the voice communications.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by Shachar (5,764,736), previously cited.

Claims 1 and 9, the two independent claims, were amended to define that the automatic data fetch unit fetches data from web sites, where that fetched data includes information which a user may require. User information would be distinguished over information that a system and its equipment may require. The amendments are based upon the original specification, claims and drawings. New matter was not added.

The rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 for anticipation by the cited prior art patent, is respectfully traversed.

Shachar, by the way, describes downloading only a kind of program called "business cards". In the response of January 25, 2001 to the Examiner, this point in particular was not argued as it was considered that the downloading of business cards was in large measure similar to downloading web-site pages. This conclusion was based on the description in lines 64-67, column 5 and lines 28-30, column 7 of the Shachar specification. There it is stated that the application of the Shachar invention was not limited to business cards and that business cards were available for downloading through hyperlinks. Now,

however, it is necessary to discuss this business card matter to clarify differences between the present invention and that of Shachar.

Each business card is said to consist of information that is required for establishing contacts between a server and a user. This implies that the information contained in business cards is limited to that required for this specific "establishing" requirement. Shachar, in summarizing the explanation about the business cards, nevertheless says that application of the invention is not limited to business cards. This is a customary phrase (boiler plate) with patent specification documents.

It would be correct to read that Shachar teaches downloading of business cards. If anything more is taught by the reference than business cards, it is likely to be information that is required for establishing contacts between users and servers. Even if such information is available through hyperlinks with Shachar, the reference must be considered different from the present invention in which all the information contained in downloaded web sites is to be stored.

The present invention, as described, is concerned with the manner in which all the data contained in a web site is downloaded and stored during a session preliminarily established, and the data is held for supply to the users at a later occasion. The data that is downloaded is not just contact information, i.e. not just the information required for establishing contacts. The information downloaded according to the present invention also includes, for example, web-site-store product information.

In a manner of thinking, downloading all the web site contents and downloading only the contact information for a concerned web site may appear the same. But they differ from each other significantly if it is considered that any virtual communication can only be established by downloading and storing in memory all the data of a web site. Virtual communication cannot be established by downloading only the contact information.

For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is distinguished over the reference and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 for anticipation is inappropriate in this case.

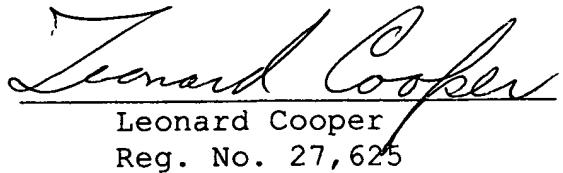
An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. It is respectfully believed that independent claims 1 and 9 are in condition for allowance as well as claims 2-6 and 8 dependent from claim 1, and claims 10-14 dependent from claim 9. This amendment is not believed to add new matter, raise new issues or require additional searching on the part of the Examiner. Entry of the amendment and passage of this case to allowance are earnestly solicited.

However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account No. 08-1634.

The attached pages are captioned "Version with  
markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

  
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Four times Amended) A communications system comprising:

a server providing information;

a terminal communicating data with the server;

a communications network connecting said server to said terminal;

a temporary line disconnection unit, provided in the server and the terminal, monitoring a content of received data from the server and from the terminal, when a specified data is received disconnecting a line being used for data communications without issuing any disconnection notifications to an upper layer application of said terminal and said server when said terminal voice communicates with a third party other than said server through said communications network during the data communications with said server, and automatically connecting said server to said terminal when the voice communications terminate;

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pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.10,  
by Theresa Saunders

an automatic data fetch unit automatically fetching data of web sites including information which a user may require from said server to said terminal; and

a storage unit storing the data fetched by said automatic data fetch unit,

wherein a data communicating process is performed from a status at a point immediately before starting the voice communications when said server and said terminal resume the data communications, and

wherein said automatic data fetch unit preliminarily fetches the data obtainable from said server and stores the data in said storage unit during the data communications, and accesses said storage unit during the voice communications so that the data in said storage unit is displayed during the voice communication, thereby realizing virtual data communications during the voice communications.

9. (Four times amended) A communications method comprising the steps of:

(a) connecting a line from a server to a terminal for providing information for data communications with the server through a communications network;

(b) monitoring a content of received data from the server and from the terminal, when a specified data is received disconnecting a line being used for data communications without issuing any disconnection notifications to an upper layer application of said terminal and said server when said terminal voice communicates with a third party other than said server through said communications network during the data communications with said server, and automatically connecting said server to said terminal when the voice communications terminate;

(d) automatically fetching data of web sites including information which a user may require from said server; and

(e) storing the data fetched at step (d), wherein said upper layer applications perform a data communicating process from a status at a point immediately before starting the voice communications when the data communications are resumed,

wherein step (b) is executed in the server and the terminal, and

wherein said steps (d) and (e) are followed during the data communications between said terminal and said server, and said data stored in said step (e) is

accessed during the voice communications so that said data stored in said step (e) is displayed during the voice communication, thereby establishing virtual data communications during the voice communications.

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